

## CLAIMS

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1. A bottom anchor assembly for a substantially vertically-oriented elongate safety line, said anchor assembly comprising safety line gripping means, safety line tensioning means and bracket means, wherein the gripping means includes a manually adjustable clamp and the tensioning means includes a hollow shaft through which the safety line passes, said hollow shaft being externally screw-threaded and being provided on its screw-threaded portion with load-setting means adapted to bear against the underside of said bracket means for adjusting the safety line tension to a predetermined value.

2. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the manually adjustable clamp consists of a pair of clamp blocks adapted to be placed in face-to-face opposing relationship around the safety line immediately beneath the hollow shaft.

3. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 2 wherein the clamp blocks are provided with mutually-aligned grooves or recesses substantially conforming to the profile of the safety line.

4. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein the clamp blocks are loosely clamped to each other using screw-threaded fastening means for initial assembly and include a further screw-threaded fastener for applying the final clamping torque.

5. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the manually adjustable clamp consists of a collet grip through which the safety line passes.

6. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein the collet grip is held between an end of the hollow shaft and a screw threaded fastener engaging the external screw thread on the hollow shaft.

7. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 6 wherein the collet grip can be opened or closed onto the safety line by rotating the screw threaded fastener relative to the hollow shaft.

8. A bottom anchor assembly according to claim 5 or claim 6 wherein the collet grip is biased closed onto the safety line by a resilient element.

9. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 8 wherein a sliding release member is provided in contact with the collet grip so that the collet grip can be opened against the bias of the resilient element.

10. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the bracket means includes open jaw members adapted to receive the hollow shaft.

11. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in claim 10 wherein the ends of the open jaw members are provided with down-turned portions which serve to prevent accidental removal of the load-setting means threaded on the hollow shaft from between the jaw members when the system is adjusted to its predetermined tension.

12. A bottom anchor assembly as claimed in any preceding claim further comprising indicator means for providing a visible indication of when said predetermined tension has been achieved.